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County Councilman David Marks Fifth District Newsletter

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MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMAN MARKS: FOCUSING ON SAFETY AND QUALITY OF LIFE

As Councilman, I have tried to work on some “big picture” priorities that move Baltimore County forward—revitalizing our older commercial areas, renovating classrooms and building new schools, preserving open space and reforming government. Equally important, however, is the need to keep our neighborhoods safe, clean, and attractive.

Public Safety

We have outstanding police, firefighters, and paramedics serving our communities. [There are three police precincts—Towson, Parkville, and White Marsh—that serve most of our communities](#), and each has a Community Relations Council with citizen volunteers. [We have career fire stations throughout the Fifth District and volunteer stations at Providence, Kingsville, and White Marsh.](#)

Code Enforcement

About 80 percent of our time is spent responding to complaints about rats, tall grass, and dumping. The county’s Code Enforcement page can be found here:

<https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/permits/codeenforcement/>.

Trash and Recycling

Baltimore County’s Bureau of Solid Waste handles trash, recycling, and questions about landfills:

https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/publicworks/solid_waste/. My hope is that the resumption of bulk trash pickup in 2022 will sharply reduce illegal dumping.

I take all these issues very seriously. In addition to public meetings and one-on-one help, our office often sponsors community cleanups—five this year so far! Please check out our Facebook page for routine announcements.



VOLUNTEERS PREPARE FOR NEW PARK ON GERST ROAD

The 22-acre Bierman farm on Gerst Road will be the tenth new park in the Fifth District since 2010. Throughout June, volunteers from the White Marsh Recreation Council and surrounding neighborhoods removed barbed wire fence and debris from the farm to prepare it for settlement. Many thanks to these volunteers! Once purchased, the county will engage in an input process to plan for uses at the park.

KNOW ABOUT JULY FOURTH EVENTS AND RULES

In addition to many neighborhood cookouts and other celebrations, there are two Independence Day parades in the Fifth District. [The Towson Fourth of July Parade begins at 10:30 a.m.](#) in Downtown Towson, and [the Kingsville parade kicks off at 11 a.m.](#) along Bradshaw and Jerusalem Roads.

Here is a good resource to learn about the rules governing fireworks in Baltimore County: <https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/fire/safety%20education/fireworks.html>.



ROAD RESURFACING TO OCCUR IN PARKVILLE AND LOCH RAVEN

More than three miles of roads will be improved in Parkville and Loch Raven, including neighborhoods west of Satyr Hill Road and the Baltimore Beltway bridge at Joppa Road. These are “older” routes not completed because of utility work. Additionally, Baltimore County will soon be finalizing its resurfacing list for the 2021-2022 construction season.

Over the past three years, numerous corridors have been resurfaced in central and northeastern Baltimore County, including much of Joppa Road and Bosley Avenue, Goucher Boulevard, and Stevenson Lane.

COUNCILMAN MARKS PROPOSES MAKING SOCIAL HOST ORDINANCE A COUNTYWIDE STATUTE

Councilman Marks has proposed legislation to modify the social host ordinance, which currently only applies to Towson and areas near Catonsville, so that it benefits all county residents. This law helps deter unruly disturbances by creating penalties for tenants and landlords for repeated offenses. Read the commentary that Councilman Marks and States Attorney Scott Shellenberger recently submitted to the *Baltimore Sun*: <https://www.baltimoresun.com/opinion/op-ed/bs-ed-op-0614-social-host-ordinance-20210614-wy4g6j2lkvahddk4ucyh4dtoem-story.html>.

JERUSALEM MILL VILLAGE KICKS OFF SUMMER CONCERTS

Historic Jerusalem Mill Village spans the Baltimore and Harford County lines. This summer, the village will hold summer concerts every other Sunday starting at 7 p.m.

- June 27 – Charlie Zahm
- July 11 – Free Range Blue
- July 25 – Appaloosa
- August 8 – Great Train Robbery
- August 15 – She Major



The cost is \$10 for members, military with ID, kids 12 – 15 years old, and seniors. The cost is \$15 for non-members. Children under 12 are admitted for free.